Reply of Government.—Whenever ryots themselves offer to commute their liability into a money contribution owing to local difficulties, Government have always been prepared to undertake the maintenance work to be executed by their agency in the case of important works. The causes of delay in the cases brought to notice (Malvalli tank, Bannur tank, and Marahalli tank) will be enquired into.

SUBJECT No. 98.

(1) Classification of major and minor tanks in the malnad.

(2) Repairs to small tanks in the malnad from Irrigation Cess Fund.

(1) Messrs. K. Shankaranarayana Rao, Nagar Sabha, Kesavadasa Iyengar and Veerasetty, Belur taluk; C. Srinivasa Rao, Chikmagalur taluk; and Bhistiah, Yedahalli sub-taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Repairs to minor tanks in the malnad are scarcely attended to. Their number being large, it is not possible for the ryots to repair the tanks by themselves, especially since they are wanting in unanimity.

The present classification of major and minor tanks may be so altered as to include tanks with an achkat of Rs. 100 and under as minor tanks and all the rest as major tanks so far as the malnad is concerned, so as to vest the repairs of all tanks with an atchkat of over Rs. 100 in the Public Works department.

(2) Mr. Nadiga Bhistaiya, Yedahalli sub-taluk.

(2) In the malnad, the Brahmadaya and Devadaya lands depend on small tanks for water-supply, and are subjected to Irrigation Cess. The tanks having been silted up, do not contain a sufficient supply of water. Pray that they may be repaired out of "Irrigation Cess Fund."

Reply of Government.—The matter is under the consideration of the Chief Engineer and his proposals are awaited.

SUBJECT No. 99.

Restoration of minor tanks.

(1 & 2) Mr. Sitappa Chetty, Kolar District Board.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Contributions collected from the ryots towards earthwork to minor tanks are being kept in Savings Bank deposit for unusually long periods pending Government finding requisite funds for the execution of masonry work. As an instance is cited the case of the Tholabaladakere in the Bagepalli taluk. Orders may be passed that such works should be undertaken early in preference to other works.

(2) Minor tanks should be treated in the same way as major tanks in the matter of their restoration. The ryots should not be held liable to do the earthwork before the tank is restored. They should be held responsible for the maintenance of only such of the tanks as are restored.

Solicits that orders may be passed that measurements be taken and bills paid monthly for the works executed to minor tanks.

(3) Messrs. Karnik Nallappa and Y. Rama Rao, Tumkur Municipality.

(3) Greater allotment may be made for restoration of minor tanks every year. The amount sanctioned for each district must be worked out. Such restoration will ensure the raising of crops beneath such tanks which

easily fill. If the taluk authorities take greater interest in encouraging the leading ryots of the villages, such works will be satisfactorily and easily carried out.

Reply of Government.—The ryots are usually required to do only the earthwork and whenever they do so, the masonry work will be carried out without delay. The reason why the amount is kept in the Savings Bank in the case referred to, will be enquired into and instructions will be issued that the work should be carried out as soon as the full cost of the earthwork is deposited, whenever the ryots prefer to do so. Local officers will be urged to see that the amount allotted to each district is properly worked out and if there is need for additional allotments Government are disposed to consider the matter favorably.

SUBJECT No. 100.

Repairs to minor tanks.

(*a*) Mr. Bhaskar Rao, Sorab taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The responsibility for earthwork to minor tanks has been thrown entirely upon the ryots. As the ryots pay irrigation cess on the wet and garden lands in their holdings, it is not fair to charge them with the duty of maintaining the tanks and also of paying contribution for the restoration of the same. The earth, stone and masonry work of the tanks should be a charge solely on Government. It is prayed that the ryots may be relieved of this burden.

(*b*) Messrs. B. Alasingrachar and Pyanna, Hassan Municipality, and Maralu Siddappa, Arsikere taluk.

(*b*) It is often observed that the holders of lands just below the bund of minor tanks are not so anxious to do earthwork to the bund as those holding lands far below the same. Unless ryots' share of earthwork is done the Government share of the work will not be put in hand. The result is loss to the holders of lands far below. Pray that the earthwork be done by Government, and the cost thereof be then apportioned among the ryots and recovered as an arrear of land revenue.

Mr. C. Sura Sastri, Chikballapur taluk.—(*c*) The ryots have to bring the earth from a great distance. A reserve of 30 yards may be made near each tank from which the ryots may take the earth.

Mr. Mahalinganná, Hassan taluk.—It is better to take the earth from the tank-bed itself.

Reply of Government.—(*a*) The responsibility cannot be waived. (*b*) No general orders can be passed but if there are difficulties in any special case, they may be brought to notice separately.

SUBJECT No. 101.

Sluices of tanks.

Mr. Bhishto Virupaksha Nadigar, Sorab taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The present mode of constructing sluices for tanks with brick and mortar should be abandoned, and sluices cut out of stone supplied to the tanks as in the Dharwar District. The present sluices get out of repair very soon and much money is wasted